GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4321
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2002
MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE FOR COTTON
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that prices of cotton prevailing in Andhra Pradesh this year are well below the Minimum Support Price announced by the Government.

(b) if so, whether the cotton growers in Andhra Pradesh will be badly hit by this move;

(c) if so, the action being taken by the Government to provide the remunerative prices to the cotton growers of their produce;

(d) whether the Cotton Corporation of India has procured only 1, 40,795 Mts. of cotton which is much below compared to the estimated production of above 15 lakh Mts. in the State;

(e) if so, whether any directions have been issued by the Union Government to CCI to step up its procurement operations in the State to provide much needed relief to the farmers;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a) to (g) Prices of kapas (seed cotton) in most of the cotton growing States including Andhra Pradesh have touched the Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced by the Government. To protect the interests of the cotton growers, the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd (CCI) has undertaken support price operation and till 11.04.2002 the CCI has purchased 2,48,155 MT of kapas (equivalent to lint cotton of 4,63,777 bales of 170 kg.each) in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The CCI is mandated to purchase kapas, without any quantitative restrictions, as soon as the price of kapas touches the MSP, as per parameters of support price operations.